GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3175
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
RURAL COMMUNITY PHONES
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Rural Community Phones (RCPs) provided by the private telecom operators in the country as per the contractual obligation as on date, state-wise;

(b) the targets fixed by the Government for provision of RCPs vis-Ã -vis the achievement made thereagainst by the private operators during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the defaulting telecom operators who have failed to achieve the targets?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Reliance Infocomm Limited (RIL) is the only private telecom operator providing Rural Community Phones (RCPs). The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has entered into an agreement with RIL in September, 2004 to provide 21,459 RCPs in identified villages with population of more than 2000 and where there are no Public Call Offices (PCOs). A statement indicating State-wise number of RCPs provided by the private telecom operators in the country is given in Annexure-I.

(b) As per the roll-out condition, RIL had to provide 20% of the RCPs by September 2005, another 40% by December 2006 and remaining 40% by September 2007. The targets fixed by the Government for RCPs vis-Ã -vis the achievement made there against, by the operators during each of the last three years:

Year of Agreement	Target	Achievement
First Year of Agreement	4,291	4,820
Second Year of Agreement	8,584	9,800
Third Year of Agreement (up to 31.01.2007)		8,556 911

The State-wise details of RCPs provided during the last three years are given in Annexure − II.

(c) Does no arise in view of (b) above.